

20-33

10-11-19

Arizona State Veterinary Medical Board

Dear Tracy,

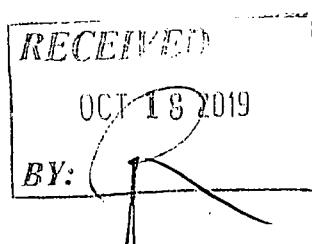
I own a Mobile Veterinary Clinic and travel to Tombstone and Willcox every 5 weeks for clinics. I provide discount spay/ neuter and dentals to these rural areas. In Tombstone I set up at Tombstone Small Animal Shelter. These clinics last approximately 5 hours and are usually over by 1-2PM. At Tombstone, I have a client that at the end of the clinic brings me a bottle of wine whenever she brings her dogs to the clinic. I imagine after clinic that day someone saw me have a drink. I have never consumed alcohol on any day until all surgery and Veterinary work is done. I only drink on occasion and do not consider myself an alcoholic. These mobile clinics are infrequent and I do them as a service to rural areas that cannot afford high prices.

I perform approximately 1500 surgeries and procedures a year between my mobile clinics and in my home office in Sierra Vista. I do this for clients that can't afford high corporate prices in rural areas. I hope this takes care of whoever filed this complaint. I have been doing this for five years, without one medical complaint. I graduated from the University of Illinois in 1976, and have been practicing Veterinary Medicine since then.

Sincerely,

Dr. Garrel Geiger

*Dr. Garrel Geiger*



I have not consumed alcohol while practicing veterinary medicine.

I have never been impaired while practicing veterinary medicine.

I do not have a problem with alcoholism.

I have not sought help for an alcohol problem.

I am under care of a physician for high blood pressure, I take Metoprolol and Amlodipine.

I take Prozac 20 Mg a day, and have for years for some depression.

I have never been charged for a crime in an alcohol related incident.

**DOUGLAS A. DUCEY**  
- GOVERNOR -



**VICTORIA WHITMORE**  
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -

## **ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD**

1740 W. ADAMS ST., STE. 4600, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

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### **INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION REPORT**

**TO:** Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board

**FROM:** Investigative Division

**RE:** Case: 20-33

Complainant(s): Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board

Respondent(s): Garrel Geiger, DVM (License: 3819)

#### **SUMMARY:**

Complaint Received at Board Office: 9/30/19

Board Discussion: 11/20/19

#### **APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES:**

Laws as Amended August 2018

(Lime Green); Rules as Revised

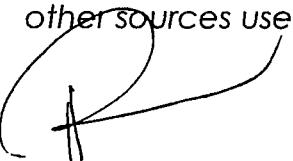
September 2013 (Yellow)

In August 2019, the Board office received information, from a person who wanted to remain anonymous, alleging Respondent drank alcohol prior to providing veterinary medical services.

**PROPOSED 'FINDINGS of FACT':**

1. In August 2019, the Board office received information, from a person who wanted to remain anonymous, alleging Respondent drank alcohol prior to providing veterinary medical services. Complainant reported that they witnessed Respondent pouring vodka from a small bottle into a red cup in the morning and at the end of the work day. There were concerns Respondent was driving his mobile unit while drinking, as well as possible surgical mistakes that may have occurred while under the influence. Complainant stated they would get additional information and witnesses to help corroborate the allegations.
2. On October 2, 2019, since no other information was received, a Letter of Inquiry was sent to Respondent.
3. On October 11, 2019, Respondent responded to the allegation of drinking alcohol prior to, or while, providing veterinary services. Respondent explained that he is a mobile veterinarian that travels to Tombstone and Willcox every 5 weeks to provide discounted veterinary services. In Tombstone, he has a client that brings him a bottle of wine whenever she brings her dogs to the clinic; Respondent stated that it was possible that someone saw him have a drink after a clinic.
4. Respondent stated that he has never consumed alcohol on any day until all surgery and veterinary services are done. He only drinks on occasion and does not consider himself an alcoholic.

*The information contained in this report was obtained from the case file, which includes the complaint, the respondent's response, any consulting veterinarian or witness input, and any other sources used to gather information for the investigation.*



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Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT  
Investigative Division